



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and  
Production Act of 1993 -- Consortium for Execution of  
Rendezvous and Servicing Operations

Notice is hereby given that, on September 10, 2018,  
pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative  
Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.  
("the Act"), Consortium for Execution of Rendezvous and  
Servicing Operations ("CONFERS") has filed written  
notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and  
the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the identities  
of the parties to the venture and (2) the nature and  
objectives of the venture. The notifications were filed  
for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting  
the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages  
under specified circumstances.

Pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, the identities of  
the parties to the venture are: Altius Space Machines,  
Inc., Broomfield, CO; Analytical Graphics, Inc., Exton, PA;  
Astroscale PTE. LTD., Tokyo, JAPAN; Ball Aerospace and  
Technology Corp., Boulder, CO; Chandah Space Technologies,  
Houston, TX; Hoffer Flow Controls, Inc. Elizabeth City, NC;  
iBOSS gmbH, Aachen, GERMANY; MacDonald, Dettwiler and  
Associates, Inc., Brampton, Ontario, CANADA; Thales Alenia

Space, Courbevoie, FRANCE; The Aerospace Corporation, El Segundo, CA; and XL Catlin, LLC, New York, NY.

The general area of CONFERS' planned activity is to establish an independent, self-sustaining industry forum to advocate and promote on-orbit satellite maintenance, servicing, and rendezvous operations by collaborating to research, develop, and publish voluntary, consensus technical and safety standards, and engaging with governments on policy and oversight of satellite servicing activities. To fulfill its mission, CONFERS will recruit a broad array of members from satellite operators, service providers, insurers and underwriters, and engage other stakeholders from industry, academia, and governments. The process will be fully collaborative and will include dedicated outreach activities to engage the global commercial satellite community. The members of the CONFERS believe that future standards should be based on a set of guiding principles that will help establish responsible norms of behavior.

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[FR Doc. 2018-22826 Filed: 10/18/2018 8:45 am; Publication Date: 10/19/2018]